



Veterans Day at a Local Level

Posted by [Pierluigi Oliverio](#) on Monday, November 10, 2008

Last Saturday, Nov. 1, I had the pleasure of meeting 17-year-old Eagle Scout Alex Gregory, who lives in the Almaden Valley. Becoming an Eagle Scout is not an easy process. A person who is seeking this honor must have dedication and perseverance. Only about 4 percent of Boy Scouts exceed expectations and achieve the high level of Eagle Scout.

To become an Eagle Scout, the scout must choose a project to share with the community. Alex chose to build a Veterans Memorial. He decided to create this Memorial at his church, St. Christopher's in Willow Glen. Alex replaced the church's flagpole and surrounded it with one-ton pieces of granite. He had every parishioner's name who had served or is still serving in the military carved into the stone. Two hundred sixty St. Christopher's parishioners have served in the military. Alex also solicited the \$20,000 needed to cover the cost of the project. It is an impressive feat for a young man. I had the honor of presenting a Commendation from the Mayor and I to Alex.

I was also impressed with the 200 or so people who showed up in the rain for the unveiling of the memorial. Both old and young were present, including many family members of those who served in the military. This memorial is located in the parking lot of St Christopher's, and is open to the public.

There will be a veteran's parade in Downtown San Jose on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 11:30am. It means a lot to the veteran's if people come and show support, so come if you are able to attend, enjoy a parade, and have lunch Downtown.

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